

device, as is commonly known in the art. At the center of window 300, a numeric keypad 302 may be displayed. The numeric keypad 302 may provide buttons for numbers zero through nine, and may contain buttons for numbers
5 ten, twenty-five, fifty, and one hundred or any other suitable or desirable values. The numeric keypad 302 may also contain a plus button ("+"), a minus button ("−"), a decimal point button ("."), a backspace button ("BKS"), and a delete button ("DEL").

10 In addition to displaying a numeric keypad as described above, dialog window 300 may also provide a user with a buy button 304, a sell button 306, a cancel buys button 308, a cancel sells button 310, a bid button 312, an offer button 314, a cancel bids button
15 316, a cancel offers button 318, cancel all button 320, and cancel all for all instruments button 322. To facilitate two-sided trading, dialog window 300 preferably provides a user with a bid price entry field 324, bid price up and down buttons 325, an offer price
20 entry field 326, offer price up and down buttons 327, a bid size entry field 329, bid size up and down buttons 330, an offer size entry field 331, and offer size up and down buttons 332. In accordance with these fields and buttons, for example, when a trader enters a bid
25 price 102 or an offer price 104, the trader may instantly quote a two-sided market. For example, if a trader enters a bid price, the trader may indicate to submit a bid and offer order for a particular item, where the offer price may be automatically generated
30 from the bid price and the pre-set spread amount. If a trader enters an offer price, the trader may indicate to submit a bid and offer order for a particular item,

where the bid price may be automatically generated from the offer price and the pre-set spread amount.

Dialog window 300 may contain a preference field 336 that allows a user to specify preferred types of orders, a close-on-action box 338 that causes dialog window 300 to be automatically closed after specified actions are performed, a configure keypad button 340 that allows a user to arrange the keypad for dialog window 300, a close button 342 that closes the dialog window 300 on demand, a settings button 341, and a display history button 343 that causes a history list of order entries to be display when pressed. Finally, dialog window 300 may contain a 1-Way button 344. 1-way button 344 causes a one-sided trading dialog box, as illustrated in FIG. 2, to display and may allow the trader to enter one-sided trades.

Preference field 336 may be used to indicate the user's preferred trade type and may allow the user to select any type of trade that a particular exchange or trading system supports. Although FIG. 3 provides specific examples of trade types (e.g., good-till-canceled (GTC), limit, all-or-none (AON), stop, and market-if-touched (MIT)), the invention may be implemented with any type of trade.

Configure keypad button 340 may allow a trader to arrange buttons appearing in dialog window 300 to be anywhere a trader prefers by first pressing the configure keypad button 340, by then dragging the buttons to new positions, and finally by clicking on button 340 again. Also, the configuration or re-configuration of buttons can change the function of those buttons depending on the type of trading desired or what type of item is being traded.

Although any of the approaches described herein to submitting a trading command may be used independently of the others, two or more approaches may also be used substantially simultaneously. For
5 example, when using a command-line interface, an entry verification feature of the present invention may display a graphical interface to confirm a trader's intentions after a command-line trade command has been entered. Similarly, as another example, after clicking
10 on a component of a bid and offer 101 in a market cell 100, an entry verification feature of the present invention may display a graphical interface to a trader to allow the trader to alter and/or confirm the command being submitted.

15 To speed entry of a trading command when using various approaches to submit a trading command substantially simultaneously, the present invention preferably includes a pointer warping feature that redirects the focus of the pointing device pointer to
20 another location of the trader's display. In accordance with this feature, for example, when a trader clicks on a bid price 102 (\$100.21 as depicted in FIG. 1) in a market cell 100, a dialog window 300 may pop-up (if not already open), and a pointer that is
25 being used by the trader may be immediately redirected to a bid button 312 to save the trader the time of repositioning the pointer to that location. Once in the new location, the trader may then use the pointer to confirm and/or modify the trade command and then
30 submit the trade command using bid button 312. Although this feature of the present invention is described in connection with a pointing device pointer,